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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

[redacted]

THE NRO STAFF

November 27, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CARL DUCKETT, CIA

SUBJECT: NRO Photographic System Evaluation Functions

As you are aware, the Department of Defense announced earlier this year that Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts, will be closed except for certain designated units including the Air Force Special Projects Production Facility (AFSPPF). For several reasons, it has now been decided to relocate the functions performed by the AFSPPF and eventually close the facility.

One function which must continue to be performed is that of photographic system evaluation, and we favor moving this activity to the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC). Informal discussions with NPIC have shown that the functions in question are closely related to those presently being performed, and that the capability can be augmented to assume the additional workload.

The Director, NPIC, is willing to assume this additional function. Manpower spaces, qualified people, and existing equipment would be transferred to NPIC by the NRO sometime in late FY 1975 or FY 1976 as the AFSPPF is phased down. With your concurrence, we will proceed to firm up and formalize our planning. I would be pleased to discuss this with you. [redacted]

JOHN L. ROLPA, JR.
Brigadier General, USAF
Director

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